



United States Copyright Office

Library of Congress · 101 Independence Avenue SE · Washington, DC 20559-6000 · www.copyright.gov

FOIA Docket No. 18-2019

April 15, 2019

Beryl Lipton
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70864
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
email: 70864-50611533@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Ms. Lipton

I am responding to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received for processing by the FOIA Requester Service Center on March 25, 2019. You requested the following records:

1. 2017, 2018, and 2019 budget materials applicable to offices responsible for FOIA requests and appeals.
2. For 2017 and 2018 “staffing reports and plans, including the count of employee numbers and for offices responsible for . . . FOIA requests and appeals.”
3. For 2017 and 2018, the “designated category of each requester of a FOIA request.”
4. For 2017 and 2018, the number of fee waivers “granted by this office and, if available, the tracking numbers for the FOIA requests to which the waivers were granted.”
5. For 2017 and 2018, any report capturing fees estimated and collected for FOIA requests.

Correspondence from Beryl Lipton, MuckRock News, to U.S. Copyright Office (March 25, 2019) (FOIA Docket No. 18-2019).¹

The Library of Congress, not the Copyright Office, holds records responsive to Categories 1 and 2 (budget materials, staffing reports, and plans). The Library’s final budget and staffing requests are publicly available at <https://www.loc.gov/about/reports-and-budgets/congressional-budget-justifications>. The Library is otherwise not subject to FOIA, but does have a procedure for responding to requests for records. To the extent that you require further budgeting and staffing records, you can reach the Library at Chief, Office Systems

¹ The FOIA request is formally addressed to the U.S. Copyright Office, but the content of the request is directed towards the U.S. Department of Interior. See FOIA Docket No. 18-2019 (referring throughout the request to a “Bureau” and citing the DOI’s “About Us” page to contextualize the request for staffing reports and plans). The Copyright Office construes this request to apply to the Copyright Office, but welcomes any clarification from MuckRock News if necessary.

Services (OSS), Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20540-9440.

The Copyright Office, however, can provide the information requested in Categories 3 through 5 (FOIA requester categories, fee waiver, and fee collection information), which are found in two types of Office records. First, the Office maintains records disclosing the number of FOIA requester categories, fee waivers, and fee collection in its annual reports, which are publicly available at <https://www.copyright.gov/foia/>. Second, the Office's FOIA logs includes information relating to categories, fee waivers, and fee collection information tracked individually by FOIA docket number. These records also contain information about the number of hours and staffing levels required to administer FOIA. I am attaching the entirety of the Office's FY2017 and FY2018 FOIA logs to this response.

This disclosure constitutes a final production.

File closed if no response in 30 days. For administrative reasons, this file will be considered closed 30 days from the date of this letter if you do not respond or otherwise contact the Copyright Office. However, you are welcome to contact us again at a later date to renew your request.

If you do contact us again about this request, please reference Docket No. 18-2019 or provide a copy of at least the first page of this letter. You may write to us at: U.S. Copyright Office, FOIA Requester Service Center, PIE, P.O. Box 70400, Washington, D.C. 20024.

Right to appeal. Should you believe that this response constitutes an improper denial of a valid FOIA request, you may file a written appeal postmarked within 90 days of the date of this letter. Your appeal should clearly identify the agency determination that is being appealed, include the assigned docket number, 18-2019, and include a statement explaining the basis for the appeal. Write "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" on the letter and envelope in a prominently visible manner and send it to: Register of Copyrights, U.S. Copyright Office, P.O. Box 70400, Washington, D.C. 20024.

Right to seek dispute resolution. You can also seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), within the National Archives and Records Administration. If you choose to do so, please refer to this page for more information: <https://ogis.archives.gov/mediation-program/rcquest-assistancce.htm>. Otherwise, you can email them at ogis@nara.gov or contact them by regular mail at the following address:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Beryl Lipton

April 15, 2019

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Catherine Rowland".

Catherine Zaller Rowland
Associate Register of Copyrights and Director
Office of Public Information and Education
U.S. Copyright Office